

May 20, 2016

Subject: May 20, 2016

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Planning Department Holds First Hearing on Home-Sharing Ordinance

The first public hearing on the draft "Home-Sharing Ordinance," the City's proposed response to the short-term rental phenomenon, will be held on Saturday, May 21st, 10 am. at the Ron Deaton Auditorium, LAPD Headquarters, 100 West First Street (across from City Hall).

For more information on the draft ordinance, the hearing notice and other important Planning Department matters, please visit:

<http://planning.lacity.org/Ordinances/ProposedOrdinances.htm>

The Expo Line extension opens!

The Expo Line extension is now open, up and running. That's great news for fans of trains, public transportation, better air quality, rides that are cheaper than what the gasoline cost for a car ride would be, and less traffic hassles.

Councilmember Koretz was among those present for the official dedication ceremony held on Friday, May 20. The festivities will continue -- please come and check out what promises to be a memorable Palms Station Grand Opening, from 10 am to 4pm on Saturday, with a 10:30 am official ceremony and lots of fun, free entertainment on National Blvd. between Palms Blvd. and Clarington Ave.

If you want to be in at the start, please know that members of the public are invited to ride the entire Expo Line for free through the end of service on Saturday (and if you like to stay out late, you might check the official schedule, or ask at the station, to see if the

TRAFFIC ADVISORY **(ISSUED BY DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS)**

COLDWATER CANYON AVENUE, MOORPARK STREET TO VENTURA BOULEVARD

Beginning on Saturday, May 21, 2016, to Sunday, May 22, 2016 between the hours of 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. the City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Street Services will cold plane and resurface the street on Coldwater Canyon Avenue, from Moorpark Street to Ventura Boulevard.

There will be full closure of the street within the above limits during scheduled work hours. The public is requested to use Fulton Avenue as an alternate route.



Shopping within the City limits of Los Angeles not only supports local businesses, it also supports City services, its neighborhoods and the well-being of all Los Angeles residents. For every \$10 you spend on taxes - \$1 goes back to the General Fund! Whether shopping along Melrose or grabbing some food in Encino, every dollar we spend within the city is an investment to the future of Los Angeles. Details [HERE](#).

Send us your news and events! If you or your community group have any upcoming events that you would like to see featured in our next newsletter or on my website, please e-mail me at paul.koretz@lacity.org.

Please feel free to send this newsletter along to your friends and neighbors and tell them to visit the CD 5 website at <http://cd5.lacity.org> to sign up for this newsletter.

Saturday schedule actually runs into early Sunday morning). This means that you can do the ride all the way between Santa Monica and Downtown L.A., for free. Pretty cool!

Here is some interesting information, including fun facts, provided by the Mayor's office, concerning this historic development in our public transportation system.

EXPO LINE EXTENSION CONNECTS DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES TO SANTA MONICA *New option will ease congestion on I-10 freeway*

LOS ANGELES—Marking the first time in a generation that passengers can take a train from Downtown L.A. to the coast, the Expo Line extension to Santa Monica was officially dedicated today by Mayor Eric Garcetti, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), and state and local officials.

"For the first time in a generation, Angelenos and visitors from around the world can travel from our skyline to the shoreline without setting foot in a car — bringing needed relief to some of our most congested corridors," said Mayor Garcetti, who is Metro Board Second Vice Chair. "This extension of the Expo Line — along with the recently-opened Gold Line extension and the Crenshaw-LAX Line that is now halfway complete — will improve quality of life by delivering convenient, affordable, and efficient transportation to more people than ever before."

As part of the grand opening, Metro will provide free rides on the entire Expo Line beginning at noon Friday and continuing until the end of service. On Saturday, free rides on the Expo Line will be offered the entire service day and there will be community parties from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the following stations:

- Downtown Santa Monica
- 17th St/SMC
- 26th/Bergamot
- Expo/Bundy
- Palms
- Culver City

The \$1.5-billion extension is the second Measure R-funded rail project to open this year, following the March debut of the Gold Line extension to Azusa. Almost 68 percent of Los Angeles County voters in 2008 approved the Measure R half-cent sales tax increase to fund new transportation projects and programs.

The 6.6-mile Expo extension runs from Culver City to Santa Monica and includes seven stations: Palms, Westwood/Rancho Park, Expo/Sepulveda, Expo/Bundy, 27th St/Bergamot, 17th St/Santa Monica College, and Downtown Santa Monica.

The Expo Line now stretches for 15.2 miles between Downtown

Los Angeles and Downtown Santa Monica, with 19 stations. In Downtown L.A., the Expo Line offers easy transfers to the Blue Line, Purple Line and Red Line at the 7th/Metro Center Station.

The Expo Line extension includes a paved bike path that runs adjacent to the tracks for most of the route between Culver City and the 17th Street/SMC Station. The bikeway includes lighting and landscaping. Each station has secure bike racks and lockers.

There will be parking available at three stations: Expo/Sepulveda (260 spaces), Expo/Bundy (217 spaces) and 17th Street/SMC (67 spaces). As part of a test parking fee program, the daily parking rate is \$2 and the monthly fee is \$39. Each station has a drop-off area and is served by buses from Metro, Big Blue Bus, or Culver CityBus.

The Expo Line to Santa Monica was built by the Exposition Construction Authority and the project was completed on time and on budget. The project broke ground in 2011 with heavy construction beginning in 2012. In February, the project was turned over to Metro, which will operate the line. Extensive system testing and employee training have been conducted on the line over the past year.

Other Measure R projects under construction include: the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project, the Regional Connector project, and the first section of the Purple Line Extension.

About Metro

Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that is really three companies in one: a major operator that transports about 1.5 million boarding passengers on an average weekday on a fleet of 2,000 clean air buses and six rail lines, a major construction agency that oversees many bus, rail, highway and other mobility related building projects, and it is the lead transportation planning and programming agency for Los Angeles County. Overseeing one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of the Los Angeles region. Dozens of transit, highway and other mobility projects largely funded by Measure R are under construction or in the planning stages. These include five new rail lines, the I-5 widening and other major projects.

Great job with sidewalk

Councilmember Koretz was recently on hand to thank members of a Bureau of Street Services crew, as they finished the creation of a sidewalk at Exposition and Sepulveda; street resurfacing occurred as well.

Councilmember Koretz had requested that this work be undertaken

and completed before the opening of the Expo Line Extension, in order to best accommodate rail users and other pedestrians and serve the crucial cause of pedestrian safety. The funding for the sidewalk was split between Expo and the city. The Councilmember happily thanked the crew members for their hard work, expertise, dedication, and a job well done.

2016-2017 City Budget Emphasizes Improved Services

As previously noted in Hi-5, the City Council has been working through the process of modifying and approving Mayor Eric Garcetti's proposed \$8.76 billion budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2016. We're pleased now to report that the budget was given final Council approval on Thursday, May 19. Some of its major accomplishments:

More LAPD officers will be able to return to street patrols with the hiring of 300 civilians to do administrative and support services that are currently done by uniformed officers.

Increased Graffiti Removal: \$1.5 million added for 13 new strike teams to help address the increased demand in graffiti removals, bringing full budget to \$8.5 million.

Cleaner Park Bathrooms: Enough money for multiple daily cleanings of at least 50 of the City's highest use park bathrooms. Normally park bathrooms are only cleaned once a day.

Community Plan updates: \$1.9 million to fund two dozen positions in the Planning Department to define and set clear zoning requirements and needs for the City's many unique neighborhoods.

Clean Streets (citywide): The budget allocates \$1.6 million to add a fourth Clean Streets team to help address unclean streets and homeless encampments and for 15 cameras to help catch illegal dumping violators.

Sidewalk Program: \$11 million in funding is provided for five crews to address sidewalks with accessibility challenges for the disabled and other high-liability locations. \$6 million is also set aside to split the costs with property owners who want to repair their own sidewalks.

Vision Zero: The budget includes funding to survey high-risk areas and design improvements, and to create 20 new pedestrian refuge islands and 20 new bus refuge islands to help meet the City's goal of zero pedestrian deaths.

Street Lighting: Funding for pedestrian lighting at 20 bus stops, lighting at mid-block crosswalks, and lighting at the top 50 schools in the Safe Routes to School program.

Tree Trimming: funding for City crews to remove dead street trees and tree stumps and to do more tree trimming.

Homeless Services and Housing: \$138 million in identified and prospective funds to kick-start the City's effort to move homeless people off the street and into shelters and permanent supportive housing.

In addition, a number of specific proposals offered or championed by Councilmember Koretz were approved:

1. **Wildlife Corridor Open Space Study:** funding to begin work.

2. **Speed Hump program:** funding to revive the popular program.

3. **Information Technology College Student Worker program:** funding to bring in 10 college interns in anticipation of the need to replace retiring workers in the near future.

4. **Neighborhood Conservation and Historic Preservation Overlay Zones:** funding for staff to maintain these important planning efforts.

5. **Cool Blocks program:** funding for 15 Neighborhood Councils to combat climate change.

7. **Fire Station 92:** authorization to re-open the Century City firehouse.

11. **Restoration of Needed City Staff:** authorization for the Controller, City Attorney, Animal Services, Information Technology and Personnel Departments to hire much-needed staff to improve performance and service to the public.

Vince Bertoni makes the rounds

The City of L.A.'s new Planning Director, Vince Bertoni, is a strong believer in collaboration and consensus-building, and prioritizes being aware of the diverse needs of communities, which is why he has made a point, early on, of visiting council offices such as the 5th Council Office, where he met with Chief of Staff Joan Pelico. They discussed constituent concerns, issues and needs related to land use and planning, and began work on setting up a date for a Town Hall meeting in the 5th District, so that CD 5 residents can meet with the Planning Director and ask all their questions.

Prior to becoming L.A.'s Planning Director, Bertoni served for five years as the City of Pasadena's Planning and Community Development Director, during which time he successfully managed Pasadena's city planning program through a General Plan update, which involved a comprehensive visioning process that happens but once every twenty years.

Before that, he was Deputy Planning Director right here in the City of Los Angeles, and in that capacity, he oversaw the adoption of 16 historic preservation overlay zones, new guidelines for the Broadway Historic District, a bicycle master plan and a Hollywood community plan. He's also held lead planning posts in the cities of Beverly Hills, Santa Clarita and Malibu, and is a member of the California Planning Roundtable. He is also a very active member of the American Planning Association (including as past president of the California Chapter) and the American Institute of Certified Planners.

RVA

Councilmember Koretz was very pleased and proud to attend and participate in the annual meeting of the Roscomare Valley Association. Residents were happy to hear about the Councilmember's efforts regarding the Interim Control Ordinance, as well as how the City Council unanimously approved his Wildlife Corridor motion. He saluted Bud Bakeman and Joan Singleton, both of whom are stepping down from the Board after providing great community leadership and service. It's through organizations like the RVA that a spirit of community is fully achieved.

Pick Pico

On Sunday, May 22nd from 11am-3pm the Annual Pick Pico event is happening at Pico and Overland, and will be offering free fun attractions, food, entertainment and great community spirit. For more information please visit <http://www.pickpico.org/>. We salute the Westside Neighborhood Council and all the major sponsors and participants for making this fine community event possible.

Also, Friends of West Los Angeles (FOWLA), a 501 (c)3 non-profit corporation, is providing Ring Video/Wi-Fi Doorbells and other Ring products/home safety devices (www.ring.com) at subsidized prices. Fowla is making them available to Westside homeowners on a first-come, first-served basis at the Pick Pico event.

Celebrate Israel Festival

The 2016 Celebrate Israel Festival was held in Rancho Park on May 15, and once again drew many delighted visitors, there to enjoy the many festive features of this annual event. The City congratulates everyone responsible for this success, and thanks event staff, visitors and the neighborhood.

Thank you!

We as a society benefit when people are involved and speak to the issues of the day. That's so, whether it's locally for the sake of one's community -- and here in Los Angeles, we have a lot of tremendous community advocates -- or on national and global issues. Because being involved can sometimes be exhausting, it's especially nice to see people looking happy and vibrant after the end of a community meeting or political event, as were these two people following "The March to Break Free from Fossil Fuels," held on Saturday, May 14. CD 5 thanks everyone who is active and involved for their neighborhood, community, civic and/or political participation.

Events you don't want to miss this weekend:





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